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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Christine Sherwood

**Applicant** 

: Blake MingQi Dong, et al.

Application No.

: 09/944,534

Filed

AUG 2 5 2003

: August 31, 2001

Title

: A METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR THE CONTROL AND

DISTRIBUTION OF VALUE BEARING ITEMS IN A PC POSTAGE

SYSTEM

Grp./Div.

: 3629

Examiner Docket No. : Edward R. Cosimano

: 47013/PAN/S850

RECEIVED

AUG 2 7 2003

**GROUP 3600** 

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT 37 CFR § 1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Post Office Box 7068 Pasadena, CA 91109-7068 August 19, 2003

## Commissioner:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, and in accordance with the provisions in the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure §§ 609 and 707.05(b), enclosed is FORM PTO/SB/08A/B listing a reference that is known to applicant. A copy of the listed reference is enclosed. This filing is timely because it is made during one of the periods described in 37 CFR § 1.97(b). To the best of the undersigned's knowledge, this filing is being made prior to the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

It is respectfully requested that the listed reference be considered in the examination of this application and identified on the list of references cited on the patent issuing for this application. Applicant also requests that an initialed copy of FORM PTO/SB/08A/B be entered in the application file and returned to applicant with the next communication from the Office in accordance with MPEP § 609.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

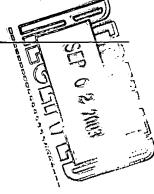
Peter A. Nichols

Reg. No. 47,822 626/795-9900

PAN/cks

PTO/SB/08A/B, w/reference Enclosures:

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FORM PTO/SB/08A/B (10-01) Substitute for PTO-1449A/B	Attorney Docket Number	47013/PAN/S850
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE	Application Number	09/944,534
	Filing Date	August 31, 2001
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT	Applicant(s)	Blake Ming Qi Dong, et al.
(use as many sheets as necessary)	Group Art Unit	2853
	Examiner Name	To be Assigned

		U.S. PA	TENT DOCUMENTS		
EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No.1	DOCUMENT NUMBER  Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (If Known)	PUBLICATION DATE MM-DD-YYYY	NAME OF PATENTEE	
		5,655,023	08-05-1997	Cordery et al.	
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				AUG 2	<del>7 2003</del>
		EODEICN	DATENIT DOCUMENTS	GROU	36
			PATENT DOCUMENTS		T <sup>6</sup>
EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (If Known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	(,)

		OTHER DOCUMENTS
EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article, title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

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EXAMINER DATE CONSTREPED			 	
SIGNATURE	EXAMINER SIGNATURE	DATE CONSIDERED		

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 'Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.pto.gov or MPEP 901.4. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English Language Translation is attached.

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